

- Sec.
6616. Loans to economically disadvantaged rural communities.
 (a) In general.
 (b) Interest rates.
6617. Authorization of appropriations and spending authority.
 (a) Authorization of appropriations.
 (b) Limitation on authorization.
 (c) Spending authority.

SUBCHAPTER I—FORESTRY RURAL REVITALIZATION

§ 6601. Forestry rural revitalization

(a) Establishment of economic development and global marketing program

The Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Extension Service and the Cooperative Extension System, and in consultation with the Forest Service, shall establish and implement educational programs and provide technical assistance to assist businesses, industries, and policymakers to create jobs, raise incomes, and increase public revenues in manners consistent with environmental concerns.

(b) Activities

Each program established under subsection (a) of this section shall—

- (1) transfer technologies to natural resource-based industries in the United States to make such industries more efficient, productive, and competitive;
- (2) assist businesses to identify global marketing opportunities, conduct business on an international basis, and market themselves more effectively; and
- (3) train local leaders in strategic community economic development.

(c) Types of programs

The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish specific programs under subsection (a) of this section to—

- (1) deliver educational services focused on community economic analysis, economic diversification, economic impact analysis, retention and expansion of existing commodity and noncommodity industries, amenity resource and tourism development, and entrepreneurship focusing on forest lands and rural communities;
- (2) use Cooperative Extension System databases and analytical tools to help communities diversify their economic bases, add value locally to raw forest product materials, and retain revenues by helping to develop local businesses and industries to supply forest products locally; and
- (3) use the full resources of the Cooperative Extension Service, including land-grant universities and county offices, to promote economic development that is sustainable and environmentally sound.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIII, § 2371, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4045.)

SHORT TITLE

Section 2372 of Pub. L. 101-624 provided that: “This chapter [chapter 2 (§§ 2372-2379) of subtitle G of title XXIII of Pub. L. 101-624, enacting subchapter II (§ 6611

et seq.) of this chapter] may be cited as the ‘National Forest-Dependent Rural Communities Economic Diversification Act of 1990’.”

SUBCHAPTER II—NATIONAL FOREST-DEPENDENT RURAL COMMUNITIES

§ 6611. Findings and purposes

(a) Findings

The Congress finds that—

- (1) the economic well-being of rural America is vital to our national growth and prosperity;
- (2) the economic well-being of many rural communities depends upon the goods and services that are derived from National Forest System land;
- (3) the economies of many of these communities suffer from a lack of industrial and business diversity;
- (4) this lack of diversity is particularly serious in communities whose economies are predominantly dependent on timber and recreation resources and where management decisions made on National Forest System land by Federal and private organizations may disrupt the supply of those resources;
- (5) the Forest Service has expertise and resources that could be directed to promote modernization and economic diversification of existing industries and services based on natural resources;
- (6) the Forest Service has the technical expertise to provide leadership, in cooperation with other governmental agencies and the private sector, to assist rural communities dependent upon National Forest System land resources to upgrade existing industries and diversify by developing new economic activity in non-forest-related industries; and
- (7) technical assistance, training, education, and other assistance provided by the Department of Agriculture can be targeted to provide immediate help to those rural communities in greatest need.

(b) Purposes

The purposes of this subchapter are—

- (1) to provide assistance to rural communities that are located in or near National Forest System land and that are economically dependent upon natural resources or are likely to be economically disadvantaged by Federal or private sector land management practices;
- (2) to aid in diversifying such communities’ economic bases; and
- (3) to improve the economic, social, and environmental well-being of rural America.

(Pub. L. 101-624, title XXIII, § 2373, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 4046; Pub. L. 106-113, div. B, § 1000(a)(3) [title III, § 345(a)], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1535, 1501A-203.)

AMENDMENTS

1999—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 106-113, § 1000(a)(3) [title III, § 345(a)(1)(A)], substituted “National Forest System land;” for “national forests;”.

Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 106-113, § 1000(a)(3) [title III, § 345(a)(1)(B)], substituted “National Forest System land” for “the national forests”.

Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 106-113, § 1000(a)(3) [title III, § 345(a)(1)(C)], substituted “natural resources;” for “forest resources;”.